GIS & RDBMS Used With Offline FAA Airspace Databases

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A geographic information system (GIS) and relational database management system (RDBMS) were used in a Macintosh-environment to access, manipulate, and display off-line Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) databases of airport and navigational aid locations, airways, and airspace boundaries, This proof-of-concept effort used data available from the Adaptation Controlled Environment System (ACES) and Digital Aeronautical Chart Supplement (DACS) databases to allow FAA cartographers and others to create computer-assisted charts and overlays as reference material for air traffic controllers. These products were created on an engineering model of the GMSP (GRaphics Adaptation Support Position) workstation that will be used to make graphics and text products for a future upgrade to the air traffic control system, the Advanced Automation System. Techniques developed during the prototyping effort have shown the viability of using databases to create graphical products without the need for a intervening data entry step.

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